

Name: ANSWER KEY
Class: _____
Date: _____

Rikki-tikki-tavi by Rudyard Kipling
"Before You Read"

Learning Objectives:

- **MAKE PREDICTIONS FROM INFORMATION IN THE TEXT**
- **USE CONTEXT CLUES (INCLUDING PARTS OF SPEECH) TO DETERMINE THE MEANING OF NEW WORDS**

Define the following literary elements, as discussed under "Plot" on page 12:

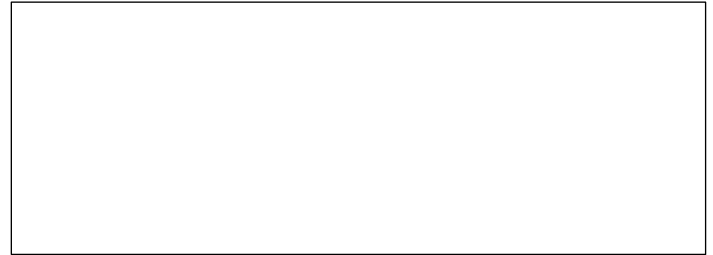
1. **Plot** = **THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS IN A SHORT STORY.**
2. **Conflict** = **A STRUGGLE BETWEEN OPPOSING SIDES OR FORCES**
3. **Climax** = **THE POINT AT WHICH THE CONFLICT (AND SUSPENSE) IS GREATEST**
4. **Resolution** = **WHEN YOU LEARN THE OUTCOME OF THE CONFLICT**

"Focus", p 12

1. The main characters in "Rikki-tikki-tavi" are not people but **ANIMALS** native to **ASIA**.
2. Describe a mongoose:

A MONGOOSE IS A SMALL, SHORT-LEGGED ANIMAL WITH A POINTED NOSE, SMALL EARS, AND A LONG, FURRY TAIL

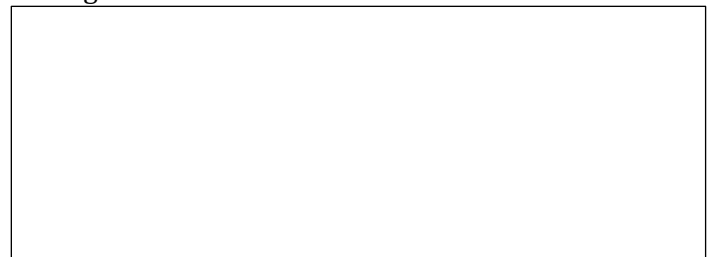
Below, draw a picture (as best you can) of what you imagine a mongoose to look like:



3. Describe a cobra:

A COBRA IS A VERY POISONOUS SNAKE THAT EXANDS THE RIBS NEAR ITS HEAD TO FORM A HOOD SHAPE JUST BEFORE STRIKING.

Below, draw a picture (as best you can) of what you imagine a cobra to look like:



4. It was once believed that the mongoose is immune to the cobra's bite, but in truth, **THE MONGOOSE IS SIMPLY FASTER AND MORE AGILE THAN THE COBRA.**

Vocabulary in context: Choose the correct vocabulary word from the Word Bank below to complete the sentences. Look for context clues to determine which word (and part of speech) would fit best. If you need additional help, refer to the definitions on page 12.

Draggled	Flinched	Mourning	Consolation	Cunningly
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1. Nagaina went to the rubbish heap by the stables, **MOURNING** the loss of her husband Nag.
2. Darzee had to act very **CUNNINGLY** to trick Nagaina, the dangerous snake.
3. After the high summer flood washed him out of the burrow, Rikki-tikki layed in the hot sun on the middle of the garden path, very **DRAGGLED** indeed.
4. Nagaina could find little **CONSOLATION** after the death of Nag, other than the idea of revenge.
5. After fighting with one snake, an unexpected noise in the brush might cause Rikki-tikki to **FLINCH**.

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Vocabulary Introduction to “Rikki-Tikki-Tavi”

I. Passage. Read the following paragraph paying special attention to the underlined vocabulary words:

After our devastating loss in the championship game, my team was in mourning. Nothing our mothers said made us feel better. It wasn't fair because they had so cunningly scored in the last ten seconds. Immensely disappointed, the team gathered at the coach's house to reflect upon the season. Remembering our many wins was some consolation, and we vowed to return to the championship game again next year. Laughing with each other, drinking ice-cold lemonade, while sitting on the veranda also revived our spirits.

II. Parts of Speech. Analyze *the use* of each vocabulary word (underlined in the paragraph above) to determine its part of speech.

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|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Mourning | a. verb | b. noun | c. adjective | d. adverb | e. preposition |
| 2. Cunningly | a. verb | b. noun | c. adjective | d. adverb | e. preposition |
| 3. Immensely | a. verb | b. noun | c. adjective | d. adverb | e. preposition |
| 4. Consolation | a. verb | b. noun | c. adjective | d. adverb | e. preposition |
| 5. Veranda | a. verb | b. noun | c. adjective | d. adverb | e. preposition |
| 6. Revived | a. verb | b. noun | c. adjective | d. adverb | e. preposition |

III. Definitions. Apply your knowledge of context clues and strategies. Match each vocabulary word on the left to its appropriate definition written on the right. Refer to the paragraph above as often as necessary for context clues.

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|-------------------------|--|
| 1. <u>D</u> Mourning | A. Came back to life or consciousness |
| 2. <u>C</u> Cunningly | B. An open porch, usually with a roof. |
| 3. <u>F</u> Immensely | C. Cleverly—in a sly, sneaky manner |
| 4. <u>A</u> Consolation | D. Expressing grief, especially after someone dies |
| 5. <u>B</u> Veranda | E. Something that comforts a disappointed person |
| 6. <u>A</u> Revived | F. A great deal; very much. |